

# Griffmen, With Strengthened Offense, Should Be In Pennant Scrap, Says Leader

## GRIFF CLAIMS HIS TEAM IS IN RACE

Says Pennants Are Not Won in April, But Some Things Are Shown.

## HAS HITTERS AND PITCHERS

Needed Offensive Strength and Now Has It—Concedes Boston's Superiority.

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER.  
PHILADELPHIA, April 14.—After thinking over things for a while, Manager Griffith has concluded that his team should be considered a contender for the 1917 pennant. Furthermore, he admits it, he confesses it. So it must be so.

"Pennants are not won in April, but many things are shown in April, just the same," is the old Fox phrase. "Now, for instance, you must admit that Johnson and Gallia looked like regular pitchers. Well, Jim Shaw, Doc Ayres, and George DuMont are going to look as good when they are giving some work to do."

"That my team can hit has been shown in two games. Against Bush, who was pitching wonderful ball at all times, even when he was being hit, my team showed an ability to get hits when they were needed. Against Myers, also a fine pitcher, my players knocked him off the rubber in one inning."

Need Just Two Things.  
"I had the fielders last year. I needed just two things to give me a chance this season, hitters and pitchers. I have found what I wanted. I am satisfied that, aside from the Red Sox, no team in the league has anything on my ball club."

"I have read arguments from many to the effect that the White Sox should win the pennant. Well, I don't see that. They are no better, even with Gandil on first base, than they were last year. You can't make brains for a man, remember."

"If we can get to Boston, we ought to win the pennant. That's the way I size up the American League. I don't say that we are going to do this, but we ought to make a good fight."

What Griffith Thinks.  
Manager Griffith really believes, though he hates to admit it for publication, that his ball club stands an excellent chance of winning the pennant. Of course, he realizes that luck bears a big part in the awarding of a pennant to any club. "He cannot foresee what luck he will have, but if everything is even, he thinks his team improved sufficiently to hold its own against any other team in the league."

Friday the 13th proved most unfortunate for the Griffmen yesterday. Just when DuMont was all ready for some live performances on the rubber, and was begging for a chance to twirl, it has to go and rain on the boys. Now the Minneapolis flinger thinks his luck may be all wrong. He wanted to start on the 13th of the month.

Proves Slow Day.  
It didn't rain all day, but it was a slow passage of the hours for the Griffmen. Some of the boys slept away most of it. Others played cards and the movie hounds, led by "Cuckoo" Jamieson, raided all the nearby theaters. Every athlete, in the bunch was glad when the day was done. A rainy day in Philadelphia is like a week on a desert island to the anxious athletes.

Benny Has Learned.  
Corporal Dean was given to lose a day's work on his embryonic soldiers. He has entered into the battle for the \$500 prize, and hates to miss any chances to drill his squad. He plans to keep them busy on the manual of arms, using bats as guns, until they can give an exhibition of this phase of tactics for the Washington fans next Friday when the flag goes up in the Capital.

## BREWER ENTERS

Maryland State Star Will Run in Penn's Big Relay Meet.

Brooklyn Brewer, recognized as one of the fastest sprinters in America, yesterday sent word that he is getting into shape and will go from Maryland State to Philadelphia for the Penn relay race carnival which takes place April 27 and 28 at Franklin Field.

Last fall Brewer was the star of their football team. He manages to keep in running trim in spite of baseball and is expected to be a big factor in the sprints on relay day.

Brewer has beaten some of the greatest sprinters in the country, being joint holder of the 50 and 60-yard records. He has done 9.45 seconds for the 100 yards, and he will be the fastest man from the Eastern colleges to oppose the Western sprinters who are coming on for the race.

## PLAYS TIT FOR TAT

Cowler Hits Moran After Bell and Gets Knocked Out.

NEW YORK, April 14.—The scalp of Tom Cowler swings from the crowded belt of Frank Moran today. Moran put Cowler to sleep in the fourth round at the Harlem Sporting Club last night.

Cowler, not daring the third round bell, smashed Moran on the chin as he walked to his corner. The blow almost administered a knockout. Enraged, Moran came back, however, and shot a terrific drive to the Englishman's stomach. Cowler dropped to the floor for ten.

## WILL ROW TODAY

Fotomac Boat Club Crew to Engage Navy's Huskies on Severn.

Potomac Boat Club oarsmen, accompanied by some forty rowers, are meeting the navy rowing program today on the Severn river at Annapolis, Md.

The Potomac crew will be seated as follows: Garner, stroke; Duncan, 2; Kurtz, 3; Smith, 4; Willis, 5; Supple, 6; Roberts, 7; and Hutterly, bow. Kintz will be the coxswain.

The race will be rowed at a mile and 500 yards, and is expected to be held late in the afternoon.

## Will Request Committee To Allow Recent Records

Von Schelle's Scholastic Marks Found To Be Better Than Existing South Atlantic A. A. U. Figures—Finals Tonight.

Application will be made to South Atlantic A. A. U. officials in Baltimore tonight to allow two records made by Martin Von Schelle, the Western High School youngster, who is swimming for the Washington Swimming Club, to supplant existing marks.

In the Baltimore A. C. pool three weeks ago in the B. A. C. meet Von Schelle negotiated the fifty-yard dash in 26.5 seconds and repeated his win in the 100-yard dash, making the distance in 1:03.2.

Upon investigation it was learned that the S. A. A. U. records made in championship competition were 26.4 seconds for the fifty, and 1:04 for the century. Preston Petrie, of the Doyle A. C., of Baltimore, is the fifty-yard dash holder, while F. C. Hamman, of the Washington Swimming Club, is holder of the 100-yard mark.

Von Schelle's records were made in competition in what corresponds to the intercollegiate championships. LaTrobe Cogswell, president of the South Atlantic A. A. U., said he thought no difficulty would be experienced in getting the committee in charge of the B. A. C. meet to certify the records made.

Cogswell thinks Von Schelle will

## BENNY KAUFF MAY SHINE THIS SUMMER

Former Fed Leaguer Looks Unusually Fit at Bat and Afield.

NEW YORK, April 14.—Benny Kauff, former blushing violet of the Federal League, appears to have jumped right out in front this spring. Benny stands a fine chance of enjoying the best season of his career. Kauff, the box scores show, hit the ball on the nose with startling regularity and firmness, and the box scores also showed that he occasionally drew a base on balls instead of swinging wildly at the Horzons.

When the season ended last fall Kauff was showing some of the stuff that made him a king of batters in the old Gilmore circuit. He was whaling away at the horsehide in a manner that would have soon boosted his batting average to very near the .300 class. It was the result of close study by Benny and some close tutoring by John McGraw. Kauff had been told he couldn't swing in the general direction of a National League baseball and slam it out of the lot.

When Benny entered the circuit presided over by John K. Tener it became a standing joke that he would be a smash at anything, sincere and certain in the belief that a baseball couldn't be thrown past him very often. It was a fact, too. He was eager to hit that he would swing at anything.

That's all changed now. Benny has learned to wait and get the good ones. And when he connects it means something, for there are few batters in either league with the driving power that is contained in his stocky frame.

It's partly Ty Cobb's fault that Benny is making such marks for himself, the reports say. Benny grew almost green with jealousy when he was thrown into a series against the Georgian, and when Ty attacked Buck Herzog, with whom Benny rooms, his desire to eclipse the famous Tiger knew no bounds. He out-Cobbed Cobb in some of those games, punching the ball around for base hits and turning in fielding plays that were sensational.

With his ambition, powerful arms, and natural ability to hit, there is no reason why Kauff shouldn't take his place among batting leaders of the National League. And it is proper to remark that Benny has learned to wear a heavy batting average without danger of it running over.

BITS OF BASEBALL.  
Hall to the new Cleveland first baseman—Marty Kavanagh. An interesting story, indeed, significant principally in indicating that Louis Gusto is not filling Chick Gandil's shoes.

Joe Tinker has an ambition. It is to secure Fred Merkle from Brooklyn to play first base for his Columbus team. The idea of Joe asking and getting anything from Charley Ebbets is one of the laughs.

The first team of New York Giants, in its practice games, lost but one contest out of ten or a dozen played. That was to Dallas. It was in Dallas, also, by the way, that Herzog fronted the Giants, lost the decision to Ty Cobb.

According to a report from the Chicago Cubs, Ted Walsh, made a free agent by the Chicago White Sox, has asked Manager Mitchell for a trial with the North Side team. It may be true, but a lot of people will hesitate to believe it.

Major league scribes and scorers no longer will have to bother with the name of Picinich. Connie Mack has transferred the services of his catcher of that name to Atlanta of the Southern League. Pick in a pretty good catcher, but not first division material, according to Mack. Get that first division stuff?

WOULD AID RED CROSS.  
NEW YORK, April 14.—Freddie Walsh, pending official sanction of his project to organize a sportsmen's regiment for "overseas" service, wants to head of Red Cross boxing show. The Manhattan Athletic Club has offered its clubhouse to put the show on a night convenient this month.

NEW YORK, April 14.—Let Les Darcy follow the noble example of Georges Carpentier, said Governor Pleasant in ordering the cancellation of the bout scheduled between Darcy and Jeff Smith, at New Orleans, April 23.

## BIG LEAGUE HITTERS

Fancy Marks Hung Up by Clouters in Yesterday's Battles.

Here are the averages of the leading batters made in yesterday's major league games:

Player	AB.	H.	T.B.	Ave.
E. Murphy, White Sox	4	1	1	.250
Hinchman, Pirates	4	1	1	.250
Marana, Browns	4	1	1	.250
Routier, Browns	4	1	1	.250
Slater, Browns	4	1	1	.250
Gendall, White Sox	4	1	1	.250
White Sox	4	1	1	.250
Pratt, Browns	4	1	1	.250
P. Smith, Cards	4	1	1	.250
Kopf, Reds	4	1	1	.250
Zelder, Cubs	4	1	1	.250

## LEAGUE STANDINGS

Team	W.	L.	Pct.	Win. Loss.
Washington	2	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Boston	2	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Cleveland	2	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Chicago	1	1	.500	.500 .500
St. Louis	1	1	.500	.500 .500
Philadelphia	1	1	.500	.500 .500
New York	0	2	.000	.000 1.000
Brooklyn	0	2	.000	.000 1.000
Pittsburgh	0	2	.000	.000 1.000

Where They Play.  
TODAY: Washington at Phila., Cleveland at St. Louis, Boston at New York, Chicago at Detroit.  
TOMORROW: Chicago at St. Louis, Philadelphia at New York, Pittsburgh at Cleveland.

Team	W.	L.	Pct.	Win. Loss.
Chicago	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
New York	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Philadelphia	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
St. Louis	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Boston	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Brooklyn	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Pittsburgh	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000

Where They Play.  
TODAY: New York at Boston, St. Louis at Chicago, Philadelphia at Brooklyn, Pittsburgh at Cincinnati.  
TOMORROW: St. Louis at Cincinnati.

## YESTERDAY'S RESULTS.

At St. Louis: Cardinals, 9; Browns, 3. At Chicago: Cubs, 9; White Sox, 3. At Philadelphia: Athletics, 9; Phillies, 3. At New York: Yankees, 9; Giants, 3. At Boston: Red Sox, 9; Braves, 3. At Cleveland: Indians, 9; Tigers, 3. At Pittsburgh: Pirates, 9; Reds, 3.

NATIONAL LEAGUE. At Cincinnati: Reds, 9; Pirates, 3. At St. Louis: Cardinals, 9; Browns, 3. At Chicago: Cubs, 9; White Sox, 3. At Philadelphia: Athletics, 9; Phillies, 3. At New York: Yankees, 9; Giants, 3. At Boston: Red Sox, 9; Braves, 3. At Cleveland: Indians, 9; Tigers, 3. At Pittsburgh: Pirates, 9; Reds, 3.

## TO REVIVE TURF RACES

Southern Maryland Association to Bring Back Three.

The directors of the Southern Maryland Agricultural Association have decided to bring back into existence next fall the three most popular of the old Washington Jockey Club's autumnal stakes, races which up to 1905 were run at Benning track, to whose dates, spring and fall, Prince Georges Park, at Bowie, has fallen heir.

The races in question are the Dixie and Maximum Stakes, and the Washington Cup. The Dixie, which, in the heyday of the Washington Jockey Club, was an affair at one mile and a half for three-year-old fillies, will be renewed as a race of one mile and a half for three-year-olds of both sexes.

The Washington Cup, formerly a gallop of two miles and a quarter for three-year-olds and over, will be revived as a race of one mile and three quarters for three-year-olds and over. The Maximum will be renewed at two miles. Its original distance was three miles.

The object of the Southern Maryland Association in reviving the old Benning features and instituting these new events for two-year-olds is to encourage the production of the types of thoroughbred likely to be of the greatest use to the Government as stock horses at remount breeding stations. The Government will have to have 3,000 or 4,000 thoroughbred stallions for military horse sires in the next three or four years.

## RACQUETTERS PLAY TODAY

W. T. A. and Women's Leagues Open Schedules.

Two tennis leagues will get under way here this afternoon. The Washington Tennis Association matches, opening with the Columbia-Chevy Chase engagement, will get going at Columbia.

The Women's League will open up with matches between Home Club vs. Midcity, Mt. Pleasant vs. High School, Washington Country Club vs. Piney Branch, Columbia Country Club vs. Departmental, and Washington Heights vs. Y. W. C. A.

The line-up of the Columbia-Chevy Chase engagement is as follows: Columbia—C. E. Doyle, H. C. Breck, H. E. Doyle, H. T. Chapman, E. C. Graves, and Arthur Slater.

Chevy Chase—J. U. Moorhead, J. Ballard Moore, Arthur Hellen, Walter Wilcox, Walter Dunlop, Col. W. A. Bethel, and Ashmeade Fuller.

## THREE ATHLETES SHINE

Lalpike, Hartshorn, and Solomon Stars of "Y" Meet.

The youngsters Lalpike, Solomon, and Hartshorn were the stars in the annual track meet of the Boys' Department of the Y. M. C. A.

Lalpike won top honors in the Junior events by taking first place in the 20-yard dash and third place in the 100-yard dash, and third prize in the running broad jump.

Hartshorn and Solomon divided honors in the senior events, each winning three times and placing in several other contests.

## SHERMAN PLAYS GREENLEAF

Former Cue Champion Meets Youngster Tonight.

Frank Sherman, former pocket billiard champion of the world, who was defeated by Ralph Greenleaf, the youthful expert, last night, 125 to 59, will meet the star in the annual match of the cue sports at the Royal beginning at 8 o'clock.

Sherman says that Greenleaf is the strongest player he ever performed against. Greenleaf is considered the best player in the country today.

## BOB THAYER'S GOSSIP ON SPORTING MATTERS

If America could sweat the Germans another year of weak hitting, but prospects now are that they will up-set the dope.

"Rice is one of the coming stars of the league," says Jimmy Iaminger in his "Hit and Run" column which is his praise indeed. The genial Jimmy makes the statement without elaboration, believing he has said all that is necessary. This is high praise and we hope Sam Rice lives up to predictions.

Hugh Fullerton, the master mind among the dopists, in predicting the fate of the Pittsburgh Pirates—and "finch" is right in this case—says Manager Callahan will have to depend a lot on Doc Johnston at first base. That he will, Hughie. Johnston was released by the Pirates, if our dope is correct, away last summer to Birmingham in the Southern League. Fullerton also has the two Wagners, Hans and Bill, playing first base for the Pirates if Johnston fails to make good on the job. That also is rich, since Bill Wagner is a catcher and Hans is "retired." Wonder if Fullerton figures that the Browns will have to replace the aging Bobby Wallace at short if they hope to be in the American League pennant fight?

The tennis season gets under way today and unless all signs fall year will be one of unusual success. Despite the handicap of a late spring there has been considerable activity on various courts. Washington's cracks are expected to show something today. Connie Doyle will be in action and he is said to be in top form.

Baseball writers are beginning to sit up and take notice of the Griffmen. Expected to be weaklings with the fall, Griffith's men have fooled 'em all, for the time being, at least. The showing of the Nationals on their

## DIAMOND BATTLES CARDED FOR TODAY

C. U. and Gallaudet and Maryland State and Dickinson Furnish Sport.

Fair weather and dry diamonds will find several baseball games on tap today. Catholic University and Gallaudet College are furnishing the feature contest today at American League Park in a benefit game for the St. Vincent Orphanage.

The line-up for today's game will be as follows: Catholic University—Rooney, third base; A. White, shortstop; Butler, center field; H. White, catcher; Shortley, left field; Rogers, first base; Harrington, second base; Delahunt, right field; Schenker, pitcher. Gallaudet—Wilson, third base; Pillard, center field; Schenker, catcher; Marshall, first base; House, shortstop; Peard, left field; Bouchard, right field; Hetsler, second base; Ferguson, pitcher.

Maryland State, after being knocked out of several games, will engage Dickinson College today. The game should furnish some better baseball than was demonstrated in State's last performance, which was the first of the season.

Technical High School is engaging the Episcopal High School team at Alexandria today. Episcopal went to a 2-0 game, which was ten innings when Central was played.

Business is on its trip through Virginia. Snow was encountered yesterday morning and rain in the afternoon knocked out chances for a game. The team appears at Waynesboro to meet the Fishburn Military Academy team today.

Army and Navy Preps will meet the Bliss Electrical School team at the Prep field. Western will go down to Fort Hunt to get a taste of the old soldiers play ball.

## CHURCH JOINS CORPS

Washington Athlete at Yale Enlists in Flying Service.

Huylliger Church, son of Mr. and Mrs. Melville Church, 1608 Twenty-third street northwest, and well known here as a former athlete at Western High School, has returned to Yale University to join the flying corps in training there.

Young Church, with several other members of the football team, joined the aviation corps, and is awaiting his papers at New Haven. Quite a number of Yale's athletes are enlisting with the flying corps. Chester La Roche, quarterback of the football team, Church, who played end last fall, and Cord Meyer, captain of the crew, are now listed.

## DREW COMES BACK

Not Far Enough to Win Over Andy Kelly, Though.

NEW YORK, April 14.—Howard Drew, for several years the National sprinting champion, who was thought to be "through" some time ago because of an attack of paralysis, came back last night in the Smart Set A. C. games, but not far enough to win. Andrew B. Kelly of Holy Cross College, the national 300-yard champion, interposed between Drew and an absolute claim to a return to his old time form, for Kelly defeated the sturdy sprinter by inches in the running of the Century Special, an especially arranged 100-yard dash. His time was 1-5 seconds.

## WOOD FAVORS ATHLETICS

A Natural Part of Military Training, Says General.

"Get into the game!" This was Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood's reply when asked the value of athletics as an aid to national preparedness. The general favors all-round sports. He does not believe our schools cover sports as fully as they might, and thinks they are lacking to the extent that they tend to turn out comparatively trained athletes.

"Athletic training," said the general, "is naturally a part of military training, and they go hand in hand. Sound military training involves systematic, careful athletic work, work which tends to turn out a well-balanced physical man; one capable of standing the hard strains of military service."

## OREGON ABANDONS SPORTS.

EUGENE, Ore., April 14.—Athletic events of every description have been canceled at the University of Oregon.

## WEEDS OUT CUBS.

CHICAGO, April 14.—Two more Cub recruits were sent back to the bushes today for another year when Manager Mitchell began weeding out extra players. Pitcher Perry was sent to the Atlanta team, Southern League, and Arthur Shay, shortstop, went to St. Joseph, Western League.

## BOWIE RACES

April 2 to 14 Inc. 7 Races Each Day

First Race at 2:30 P. M. Special Trains Leave White House Station 1:15 and 1:40

Admission, \$1.50. Ladies, \$1.00.

## HANDICAP BOWLING EVENT A SUCCESS

Keen Competition Prevails in Speedway Elimination Tournament.

Handicap matches have brought out some fine competition in the tournament being staged at the Speedway alleys. An elimination event has been in progress since April 9, and the handicapping system has made the competition interesting for everyone participating.

The survivors in the tournament up to yesterday were Crowley, G. Loafner, Morris, Swormstedt, Butler, Holtschlag, New York, Downing, Calloway, Crosby, Whitacre, Mull, Throckmorton, Logan, Koday, Green, Ryan, Eckhardt, Ballinger, Lawson, Baier, and McElaine.

One of the most interesting matches rolled thus far was between Kamm and Lane, in which Kamm rolled scores of 93, 119, and 128, against 120, 122, and 124 for Lane. Kamm had a handicap of three pins in the game, making his set 343 to 366 for his opponent.

Grand Central, in the District League, gave the best performance of the few teams that rolled last night. Vaeth, Eiker, and Meany hit the maples for fine totals. Vaeth, after clinching the league individual championship with a set of 347, The Grand Central won three games from the Garriensons with scores of 543, 527, and 582.

Stansbury, one of the leading teams of the Masonic circuit, won two out of three from Pentapha.

Rosedales, champions of the Columbia League, added to their margin by scoring a clean sweep over Fabst. McCarthy and Holloran were the stars.

## LAST NIGHT'S SCORES.

SOUTHEAST LEAGUE.

Team	W.	L.	Pct.	Win. Loss.
De Mott	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Shipley	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Wentz	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Shanks	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Gedard	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000

Totals: 547 0 1.000 547 0

SWACONIA LEAGUE.

Team	W.	L.	Pct.	Win. Loss.
Spring	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Demois	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Rhodes	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Cousins	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Frame	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000

Totals: 547 0 1.000 547 0

COLUMBIA LEAGUE.

Team	W.	L.	Pct.	Win. Loss.
McCarthy	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Darr	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Nose	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Hagans	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000
Holloran	1	0	1.000	1.000 .000